

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION II

## 290 BROADWAY

**NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10007-1866** 

October 24, 2013

## **BY EMAIL**

William S. Hatfield, Esq. Gibbons, P.C. One Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102-5310

Re:

Access to Containment Cell, Former Givaudan Facility,

125 Delawanna Avenue, Clifton, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Hatfield:

As you may know, the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") is undertaking an investigation of certain hazardous substances identified in the Lower Passaic River, to assist EPA in evaluating the potential sources of contaminants identified at River Mile 10.9 and elsewhere in the Lower Passaic River Study Area ("LPRSA"). By this letter, EPA is requesting access to the containment cell maintained by Givaudan at the location of its former facility at 125 Delawanna Avenue in Clifton, New Jersey, to collect samples as part of this study.

EPA anticipates that the results of the study will be relevant to the conceptual site model of the LPRSA as well as questions raised concerning a potential linkage of the former Givaudan facility to the conditions identified at RM 10.9. EPA is performing this study the under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act ("CERCLA"), but the sampling is not being conducted pursuant to the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent ("AOC") for the remedial investigation and feasibility study ("RI/FS") of the LPRSA. Rather, EPA will utilize the services of the EPA Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation Environmental Response Team ("ERT") and its contractor, Lockheed Martin.

EPA plans to collect approximately five samples. We anticipate that the work would take no more than two days. Generally, we anticipate that the samples will be collected by installing borings through the concrete top of the containment cell, then closing up the openings. EPA will provide Givaudan with copy of the validated analytical results.

We understand that the containment cell is part of a response action undertaken by Givaudan under New Jersey authority, and that removing material from the cell may be subject to specific state requirements. EPA would like to meet with Givaudan, to explain in greater detail the

sampling approach planned for the containment cell, and discuss with Givaudan any technical information that EPA may need to properly collect samples and restore the integrity of the cell. Marc Greenberg, of ERT, and Eugenia Naranjo, of ERRD, will attend on EPA's behalf.

Depending on Givaudan's availability, we would like to schedule this meeting in mid-November 2013.

I will call you shortly to discuss this access request further; or you can call me at 212-637-3136. We look forward to working with Givaudan.

Yours truly,

Sarah P. Flanagan

Assistant Regional Counsel